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HOUSE BILL 3125 By
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SENATE BILL 3025
By Haun

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 17, relative to offenses against the public health, safety and welfare.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-501, is amended by deleting such section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

Section 39-17-501. As used in this act, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Gambling" is contrary to the public policy of this state and means risking anything of value for a profit whose return is to any degree contingent on chance, or any games of chance associated with casinos, including, but not limited to, slot machines, roulette wheels and the like. For the purposes of this chapter gambling does not include:

(A) A lawful business transaction;

(B) Annual events operated for the benefit of charitable § 501(c)(3) organizations that are authorized pursuant to a two-thirds (2/3) approval of the general assembly, so long as such events are not prohibited by the state constitution;

(C) A state lottery of the type such as is in operation in Georgia, Kentucky, and Virginia in 2000 and authorized by amendment to the Constitution of Tennessee, if such lottery is approved by the general assembly; or

(D) A pinball machine manufactured before 1980 and displays a three hundred fifty dollar (\$350) Class 1 tax receipt as described in § 67-4-507;

(2) "Gambling bet" means anything of value risked in gambling;

(3) "Gambling device or record" means anything designed for use in gambling, intended for use in gambling, or used for gambling;

(4) "Lawful business transaction," as used in subdivision (1) includes any futures or commodities trading;

(5) "Lottery" means the selling of anything of value for chances on a prize or stake; and

(6) "Profit" means anything of value in addition to the gambling bet.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.